

Industrial Technology

Business Unit

Wind Power Technology

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Plant Management
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Your Ref.

PTC Extension

Our Ref.

Date

May 9, 2012

Dear Members of Ways and Means Committee,

On behalf of all employees at ZF Wind Power LLC in Gainesville, Georgia we strongly encourage your support to extend the wind energy production tax credit (PTC) immediately. America is in dire need of both homegrown energy resources and American jobs and the windy industry can deliver both.

ZF Wind Power is just one of the many 400 manufacturing facilities in the United States supporting and manufacturing components for the wind industry. In 2010, ZF announced the decision to invest \$98 million in Georgia's first major wind-energy related manufacturing operation with the intent of building a gearbox manufacturing facility and bringing more than 250 jobs to the state of Georgia. This announcement was a welcomed change for a troubled economy, a time in which Georgia unemployment rates were sitting at record highs (10.5%).

Now, with a state of the art manufacturing facility in place, investment dollars poured into the local economy, employees hired, trained and production ready, the production orders that were once anticipated and projected by our customer base are no longer there. Facing the threat of the PTC expiring, wind project developers are hesitant to plan future U.S. projects resulting in more than a 50% decrease in production orders for calendar year 2013 alone. Like prior years, when the PTC was allowed to expire, our facility like many others, can expect significant job loss if the committee does not take immediate action to extend the PTC.

We strongly encourage you not to wait to extend the credit until just before or after it expires. At that point, the damage is already done as we are already experiencing the shift away from U.S. installations and movement towards Canada and South America.

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